

the people who have been hurt by this storm know that—need to know that the Government is going to be with you for the long haul.

In all the steps we take, our goal is not to simply provide benefits but to make them easy and simple as possible to collect. The responsibility of caring for hundreds of thousands of citizens who no longer have homes is going to place many demands on our Nation. We have many difficult days ahead, especially as we recover those who did not survive the storm. I've instructed all agencies to honor their memory by treating the dead with the dignity and respect they deserve.

Throughout our history, in times of testing, Americans have come together in prayer to heal and ask for strength for the tasks

ahead. So I've declared Friday, September the 16th, as a National Day of Prayer and Remembrance. I ask that we pray, as Americans have always prayed in times of trial, with confidence in His purpose, with hope for a brighter future, and with the humility to ask God to keep us strong so that we can better serve our brothers and sisters in need.

Thank you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 2:25 p.m. in Room 350 of the Dwight D. Eisenhower Executive Office Building. The Office of the Press Secretary also released a Spanish language transcript of these remarks. The National Day of Prayer and Remembrance proclamation of September 8 is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Statement on Congressional Action on Emergency Funding for Hurricane Katrina Recovery Efforts *September 8, 2005*

I thank Congress for continuing to help those affected by Hurricane Katrina by moving swiftly and in strong bipartisan fashion to approve these additional emergency funds. The people affected by this storm have immediate needs that we must

continue to meet without delay. More resources will be needed as we work to help people get back on their feet. We will continue to help people rebuild their lives and rebuild the region.

Message to the Congress on the National Emergency Caused by Hurricane Katrina *September 8, 2005*

To the Congress of the United States:

I hereby report that I have exercised my statutory authority under section 6 of the Davis-Bacon Act, 40 U.S.C. 276a-5, to suspend the provisions of sections 276a to 276a-5 of the Davis-Bacon Act in the event of a national emergency. I have found that

the conditions caused by Hurricane Katrina constitute a "national emergency" within the meaning of section 6. I have, therefore, suspended the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act in designated areas in the States of Alabama, Florida, Louisiana, and Mississippi.

This action is more fully set out in the enclosed proclamation that I have issued today.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,

September 8, 2005.

NOTE: The proclamation of September 8 regarding the designated areas affected by Hurricane Katrina is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Message to the Congress on Continuation of the National Emergency With Respect to Certain Terrorist Attacks *September 8, 2005*

To the Congress of the United States:

Section 202(d) of the National Emergencies Act, 50 U.S.C. 1622(d), provides for the automatic termination of a national emergency unless, prior to the anniversary date of its declaration, the President publishes in the *Federal Register* and transmits to the Congress a notice stating that the emergency is to continue in effect beyond the anniversary date. Consistent with this provision, I have sent to the *Federal Register* the enclosed notice, stating that the emergency declared with respect to the terrorist attacks on the United States of September 11, 2001, is to continue in effect for an additional year.

The terrorist threat that led to the declaration on September 14, 2001, of a national emergency continues. For this reason, I have determined that it is necessary to continue in effect after September 14, 2005, the national emergency with respect to the terrorist threat.

GEORGE W. BUSH

The White House,

September 8, 2005.

NOTE: The notice is listed in Appendix D at the end of this volume.

Remarks at the Swearing-In Ceremony for Karen P. Hughes as Under Secretary of State for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs *September 9, 2005*

The President. Thank you. Madame Secretary, thank you. Thank you for the fine leadership you're providing for our country. Laura and I are pleased to be back here at the State Department, and we're really pleased to be here to honor our new Under Secretary for Public Diplomacy and Public Affairs, Ambassador Karen Hughes.

It's good to see many of Karen's friends here today, particularly those from Texas. Welcome. I want to say something about

her family, her husband, Jerry, and Robert and Leigh and Lauren. I want to thank you very much for supporting Karen. It is a real blessing for this country that she has decided to come back and serve. And I know she would not have done that without your support, so thank you all very much.

We're in a war on terror. We are still at war. And to succeed in this war, we must effectively explain our policies and